

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

February 9, 2012

The Honorable Rick Scott Executive Office of the Governor PL05, The Capitol 400 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

I am writing with regards to the documentation that the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) submitted on January 13, 2012, in response to the U.S. Department of Education's December 15, 2011, conditional approval of PARCC's request to modify the assessment design articulated in its approved Race to the Top Assessment application. In particular, in responding to the conditions, PARCC submitted the data from simulations it commissioned regarding measuring student achievement across the performance spectrum and provided a statement that the Governing Board used that evidence to make final decisions regarding PARCC assessment design at the Governing Board meeting on December 16, 2011. Based on the documentation submitted, PARCC has satisfied the conditions noted in the letter sent on December 15.

As stated in my letter on December 15, it is our understanding that PARCC will still accomplish within the grant period all of the activities and deliverables articulated in its approved application. Further, PARCC has indicated that this amendment will neither result in a change in PARCC's Race to the Top Assessment goals nor substantially change the scope of work from its approved application.

It was our pleasure to meet with PARCC leaders for our annual stocktake on January 30. Per that meeting and other communications, we look forward to seeing PARCC's detailed workplans by the end of February. If you need any assistance or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jessica McKinney at (202) 401-1960 or Jessica.McKinney@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Anthony W. Miller Acting Assistant Deputy Secretary Implementation and Support Unit

cc: Gerard Robinson, Florida Department of Education
Mitchell Chester, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Michael Cohen, Achieve
Kris Ellington, Florida Department of Education
Linda Champion, Florida Department of Education
Laura Slover, Achieve